URBAN DISTRICT OF WOLVERTON

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for 1949.
(Circular No. 2/50 England)

Apart from an outbreak of Scarlet Fever at the end of the year the health of the District has remained good.

Tuberculosis Clinic This is open one day a week at Wolverton, where the County Tuberculosis Officer attends.

Screenings and Xray photographs of the chest can be done here.

Dental Treatment Mental Health Care of Expectant Mothers and young children	County Council

Disinfection.

The disinfection of clothing and bedding is carried out. Concurrent and terminal disinfection is also carried out by means of gaseous and liquid disinfectants in houses where infectious disease is notified.

Rats and Mice (Destruction) Act, 1919. Infestation Order 1943.

The various sites of the Council's Undertakings received treatment and satisfactory results were obtained All foul and storm water sewers were treated, and post test baiting gave negative results shewing that satisfactory results had been obtained. A total of 55 private dwellings were treated, chiefly properties adjoining agricultural land and buildings, with satisfactory results.

Shops.

Section 10 of the Shops Act 1934, is strictly enforced in this district.

Swimming Baths and Pools.

The Council's bathing places on the River Great Ouse have not been officially re-opened, and warnings are exhibited that persons using these bathing places do so at their own risk.

Eradication of Bed Bugs.

	Infested	Disinfested
Council Houses	1	1
Other Houses	1	1

The treatment consisted of spraying with Zaldecide.

Premises and Occupations controlled by Byelaws and Regulations.

The sanitary condition of the conveniences attached to the three cinemas in this district is satisfactory.

All the streets under the Council's control are regularly cleansed, and by arrangement with the County Council the County roads in the built-up portion of the district and also the County road linking up the three townships, are scavenged by the Council.

Housing.

The number of houses completed during the year was 56; all on the Council's Housing Estates. There were also 18 houses under construction on 31st December, and during 1950 it is expected that the Debbs Barn Estate will be further developed. This Estate allows for the erection of 71 dwellings.

The total population of the District is 13,490 (Registrar General's Return).

Water Supply.

(i) (a) The water supply is distributed over the major part of the district by the Council New Bradwell and Wolverton receive a supply from the British Railways Pumping Station; Stony Stratford from the Council's own pumping station, augmented by a supply from the Bucks Water Board, and some parts of Calverton receive a supply from the Bucks Smallholdings Committee. Samples taken during the year indicate that the quality of the water has been in all respects satisfactory.

(b) The water supply has been sufficient in quantity except for a period during the summer, when restrictions were imposed and water was turned off throughout the night. It also became necessary for a short period to transport water to Calverton. The restrictions were imposed from 14th September to 20th October (37 nights), when the water supply was turned off between the hours of 7 p.m. and 7 a.m.

(ii) Bacteriological Examinations

Lab. Ref. No.771. Nature of sample - Water from 9, Market Square, Stony Stratford.

Date and hour of collection - 17.10.49. 11.30 a.m.

Date and hour of arrival - 17.10.49.

Probable number of Coliform Bacilli, MacConkey, 2 days, 37°C = 0/100 c.c.

Probable number of Faecal coli, MacConkey, 2 days, 44°C = 0/100 c.c.

very satisfactory

Lab. Ref. No. 772. Nature of sample - Water from 122, Church Street, Wolverton.

Date and hour of collection - 17.10.49. 10.15 a.m.

Date and hour of arrival - 17.10.49.

Probable number of Coliform Bacilli, MacConkey, 2 days, 37°C = 0/100 c.c.

Probable number of Faecal coli, MacConkey, 2 days, 44°C = 0/100 c.c.

Very satisfactory.

Samples of water collected during the year.

Name of Water Supply	Water Undertaker	Bacteriological Samples		Remarks
		Date	Result	
Calverton Road P.S.	W.U.D.C.	25.1.49.	P.N. of Faecal Coli MacConkey, 2 days, 44°C = 0/100 c.c. See Page No. 3.	V.S Lab. No. 458
Blue Bridge P.S.	"	25.1.49.	ditto	V.S. Lab. No. 456
Calverton Road P.S.	"	1.3.49.	ditto	V.S. " " 314
Blue Bridge P.S.	"	1.3.49.	ditto	V.S. " " 316
Calverton Road P.S.	"	7.6.49.	ditto	V.S. " " 581
Blue Bridge P.S.	"	7.6.49.	ditto	V.S. " " 583
Calverton Road P.S.	"	30.8.49.	ditto	V S. " " 472
Blue Bridge P.S.	"	30.8.49.	ditto	V.S. " " 471
Calverton Road P.S.	"	17.10.49.	ditto	V.S. " " 771
Blue Bridge P.S.	"	17.10.49.	ditto	V.S. " " 773
Calverton Road P.S.	"	14.12.49.	ditto	V.S. " " 187
Blue Bridge P.S.	"	14.12.49.	ditto	V.S. " " 186

Total samples collected = 12 V.S. = Very Satisfactory.

Samples of water collected during the year

Name of Water Supply	Water Undertaker	Chemical Samples		Remarks
		Date	Result	
Calverton Road P.S.	W.U.D.C.	19.10.49.	See Page No. 6	Lab.Report Ref. No. 46681
Blue Bridge P.S.	W.U.D.C.	19.10.49.	See Page No. 6	Lab.Report Ref. No. 46682.
Total samples collected		2		

Samples collected from swimming pools and bathing places

Name of swimming pool or bathing place	Controlled by	Chemical Samples		Remarks
		Date	Result	
	N I L R E T U R N			
Total samples collected				

Chemical Analysis.

(a) Sample of water from U.D.C. supply, Calverton Road Pumping Station.
Report ref. No. 46681 (dated 19.10.49.)

Appearance

Odour: nil Colour: nil Turbidity: nil
pH: 7.4

Analysis

Ammonia:	Free & Saline:	0.014 parts per 100,000
	Albuminoid:	0.016 " " "
	Total:	0.030 " " "
Hardness	Permanent:	14.0 " " "
	Temporary:	20.0 " " "
	Total:	34.0 " " "
Nitrate:		0.88 " " "
Nitrite:		0.001 " " "
Chloride:		3.0 " " "

This sample of water, although extremely hard, is chemically normal and satisfactory.

(b) Sample of water from 122, Church Street, Wolverton (Blue Bridge Pumping Station Supply)
Report Ref. No. 46682 (dated 19.10.49.)

Appearance

Odour: nil Colour: nil Turbidity: nil
pH: 8.0

Analysis

Ammonia:	Free & Saline	nil parts per 100,000
	Alnuminoid:	0.004 " " "
	Total:	0.004 " " "
Hardness	Permanent:	14.0 " " "
	Temporary:	20.0 " " "
	Total:	34.0 " " "
Nitrate:		0.43 " " "
Nitrite:		0.01 " " "
Chloride:		3.7 " " "

This sample of water, although extremely hard, is chemically normal and satisfactory.

(iii) Nil

(iv) Creed Street Complaint - Alleged Contamination.

Following complaints of a smell from the tap water, samples were taken from the standpipe at 43, Creed Street, Wolverton, on October 17th. At the same time a sample was taken from the Wolverton main in Church Street. Water from the standpipe gave a Coliform Bacilli count of 80/100 c.c., but the water from the other main gave a count of 0/100 c.c.

The Medical Officer of Health subsequently gave instructions for all water drawn from the Creed Street main to be boiled, and approximately 170 dwellinghouses were informed.

Further samples were taken on October 24th, 26th and 29th, but the results in all these cases were satisfactory. Consequently instructions regarding the boiling of water have been withdrawn.

(v) (a) Particulars of dwellinghouses supplied by mains into houses 4,466

(b) Particulars of dwellinghouses supplied by standpipe into houses 67

Inspection and Supervision of Food.

Milk Supply.

Regular checks on the sale of milk were taken throughout the year. Samples were taken from wholesale purveyors, retail purveyors and in schools. 556 samples were submitted for examination by the methylene blue test with results as follows:-

Samples from	No. of Samples	Good	Moderate	Poor
Retail Purveyors	334	235	61	48
Wholesale "	165	109	16	40
Schools	24	20	1	3
School Kitchens	23	16	2	5
Totals	556	380	80	96

Meat and other Foods.

The Public Health (Meat) Regulations, 1924, the Ice Cream (Heat Treatment) Regulations, 1947 and 1948, together with the Shops Act, and Byelaws, enable a reasonably good standard to be maintained with the production and distribution of food.

All restaurant kitchens have been regularly inspected and have been found quite satisfactory.

No items of food have been seized, but the following have been voluntarily surrendered and destroyed:-

Tinned	Milk	175 tins
"	Meat	39 "
"	Fish	74 "
"	Vegetables	59 "
"	Jam	12 "
"	Soup	11 "
"	Fruit	27 "
"	Mustard	9 "
	Total	406 "

Meat Pies	14 lbs.
Sausage Meat	49 "
Fish	294 "
Cheese, Gorgonzola	22 "
" Processed	1 case
Ice-Cream	4 galls.
Bacon	20¼ lbs.
Sauce	1 bottle
Fish Paste	2 pots
Coffee	1 bottle

Surrendered - Returned to wholesalers.

Bacon	35¾ lbs
Cheese	18½ "
Canned Meats	20¼ "
Raw Meat	62 "

Ice-Cream.

The manufacture and sale of ice-cream have been most stringently observed during the year, and 197 samples were taken for examination by the methylene blue test. These gave results in the following grades:-

Grade	1	49 samples
"	2	68 "
"	3	66 "
"	4	14 "
		197 "

In the case of the 14 samples in Grade 4, enquiries were made with a view to locating the cause of the unsatisfactory condition of the sample, and preventing a recurrence.

Carcases Inspected and Condemned

	Cattle excluding cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed (if known)					
Number inspected					
All diseases except Tuberculosis: Whole carcases condemned ...					
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned					
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis ...		N	I L		
Tuberculosis only:					
Whole carcases condemned					
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...					
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis					

Food Poisoning Outbreaks.

No. of Outbreaks	1
No. of cases	99
Nos. of deaths	Nil

This outbreak consisting of diarrhoea and abdominal pain was the outcome of part of a school dinner at New Bradwell on June 2nd. Samples taken by the Sanitary Inspector on June 3rd gave negative results regarding the existence of pathogenic organisms.

An enquiry was opened on June 17th by the Deputy County Medical Officer, and the following conclusions were arrived at:-

The Outbreak.

(a) This appears on circumstantial evidence to be relatable to the canteen dinner;

(b) No source of infection was found;

(c) The vehicle was not determined - but the methods of preparation of the meat and gravy was such that bacterial contamination and multiplication could readily occur.

Infectious Disease.

There were a considerable number of cases of Scarlet Fever within the district in the last quarter of the year. The worst month was November, when 22 cases were reported of the year's total of 65 cases - 3 occurred at Stony Stratford, 4 at Wolverton, and 58 at New Bradwell The monthly incidence was as follows:-

January	1 case(s)
February	1 "
March	None
April	"
May	2 "
June	3 "
July	1 "
August	2 "
September	5 "
October	16 "
November	22 "
December	12 "
Total	65 "

Measles, Whooping Cough and Chicken Pox were prevalent at the beginning of the year; the latter has ceased to be a notifiable disease since the end of June. There was one case of Puerperal Pyrexia and one case of Opthalmia Neonatorum.

Diphtheria Immunisation of Children.

This is carried out at an Infant Welfare Centre by one of the Medical Officers of the County Council.

DOUGLAS W. A. BULL, M.D.

Medical Officer of Health,
Wolverton Urban District Council.

June 5th 1950.